

Message Text

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S E C R E T SECTION 1 OF 4 KHARTOUM 0298

CINCEUR FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PEPR, EFIN, SU
SUBJ: SITUATION IN SUDAN - OCT. - DEC. 1977
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REF: KHARTOUM 3590

SUMMARY: NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WITH POLITICAL OPPONENTS CONTINUED
AS MAJOR PRE-OCCUPATION BY SUDANGOV BUT APPEARED TO HAVE
ENCOUNTERED HARD CORE ON IRRECONCILIABLE ELEMENTS.
IN KHARTOUM, PROGRESS WAS MADE BY RECONCILIATION COMMITTEE IN

RESTORING JOBS, PROPERTY, AND FEW SENIOR POSITIONS IN SSU, BUT PARTISAN AND COMPETITIVE NEGOTIATIONS CONTINUED AMONG RETURNEES. OUTSIDE SUDAN, FORMER OPPOSITION LEADERS SHERIF HUSSEIN AL-HINDI, SUDANESE COMMUNISTS AND OTHERS ARE INVOLVED IN ANTI-NIMEIRI ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ATTEMPTS TO RE-ORGANIZE EXILES, PARTICULARLY PARA-MILITARY ANSAR ENCAMPED BY THOUSANDS IN LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA. AT END OF YEAR, RECONCILIATION HAD DIVIDED POLITICAL OPPOSITION OUTSIDE SUDAN AND GREATLY WEAKENED IT WHILE ENGAGING SUDAN PUBLIC IN WORTH- WHILE EXERCISE OF POLITICAL REHABILITATION FOR AMNESTIED POLITICIANS AND RELEASED PRISONERS.

SOUTHERN REGION POLITICS, INHERENTLY DIFFERENT AND SEPARATE FROM KHARTOUM SITUATION, WERE AFFECTED BY RECONCILIATION OF FORMER REBELS WHO INTEND TO CHALLENGE PRESENT LEADERSHIP IN FEBRUARY ELECTIONS. INCUMBENTS ARE IN WEAK POSITION SINCE SOUTHERNERS ASSERT REGION HAS BEEN "NEGLECTED COLONY" OF KHARTOUM. SOUTHERN LEADERSHIP ALSO EMBARRASSED BY KHARTOUM'S PROMOTION OF INTEGRATION WITH EGYPT AND SPREAD OF ISLAM.

ECONOMY REMAINS BIG PROBLEM FOR PUBLIC AND FOR GOVERNMENT WHICH WRESTLED WITH SEVERE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SITUATION. MORE REALISTIC APPROACH TO PROBLEM INCLUDING REFORM- CONNECTED DOLS 100 MILL CREDIT FACILITY FROM IMF WAS DEVELOPED DURING PERIOD. MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT REMAINS LOYAL POWER BASE FOR NIMEIRI AND WAS PLEASED WITH SOME PROGRESS IN ADDRESSING OUTSTANDING MILITARY CONCERNS.

IN FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NIMEIRI ENDORSED SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM
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AND CLAIMED COLLABORATION WITH SADAT ON JOINT PLAN TO RESTORE ARAB UNITY. RELATIONS WITH LIBYA REVERTED TO UNFRIENDLY AFTER START TOWARDS NORMALIZATION. WITH HELP OF OAU MEDIATION COMMITTEE WHICH MET VIN FREETOWN IN DECEMBER, SUDAN AND ETHIOPIA IMPROVED RELATIONS INCLUDING RESUMPTION OF COMMERCIAL AIR LINKS BETWEEN CAPITALS, BUT MAJOR SUBSTANTIVE DIFFERENCES INCLUDING ERITREAN QUESTION AND SOVIET PRESENCE IN HORN OF AFRICA REMAINED. SUDAN CONTINUED TO DISCLAIM PRIVATELY ANY INTENTION OF SUPPORTIVE MILITARY INTERVENTION IN SOMALIA DESPITE SIAD BARRE'S OUSTER OF SOVIETS IN MID-NOVEMBER. US-SUDAN RELATIONS GREW EVEN WARMER WITH DEMONSTRABLE PROGRESS IN MILITARY AID: THE C-130 PROGRAM WAS WELL LAUNCHED AND ARRIVAL OF MILITARY SURVEY REPORT ENABLED FORWARD MOVEMENT ON OVERALL MODERNIZATION OF SUDAN DEFENSE FORCES, PARTLY WITH AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE ON USG SALE OF F-5E SQUADRON AND RADAR. TWO CODELS AND OTHER OFFICIAL VISITORS WERE GRACIOUSLY TREATED BY NIMEIRI TO DEMONSTRATE PERSONAL DESIRE FOR GOOD US-SUDAN RELATIONS AND SENTIMENT WAS RECIPROCATED ESPECIALLY IN TWO WARM MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AT YEAR'S END. END SUMMARY

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

I. DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

1. NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WITH DOMESTIC POLITICAL OPPONENTS
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CONTINUED TO BE MAJOR THEME IN SUDAN BUT AFTER BURST OF

EUPHORIA OCCASIONED BY LATE SEPTEMBER RETURN OF MOST PROMINENT EXILE, SADIQ AL-MAHDI, HARD REALITIES BEGAN TO SURFACE. SADIQ AL-MAHDI, LEADER OF MAHDIST SECT, WAS ONE OF THREE CO-CHAIRMEN OF NATIONAL FRONT WHICH HAS RECORD OF VIOLENT AND SUBVERSIVE OPPOSITION TO NIMEIRI. ANOTHER CO-CHAIRMAN HASSAN AL-TURABI, LEADER OF REACTIONARY MOSLEM BROTHERS, ACCEPTED AMNESTY BUT THIRD CO-CHAIRMAN, SHERIF HUSSEIN AL-HINDI, HAS NOT YET COME BACK TO KHARTOUM. IN SEPTEMBER HINDI SENT SENIOR AIDE AND PUBLIC MESSAGE OF APOLOGY FOR DELAY IN ACCEPTING RECONCILIATION, BUT HIS ALLEGATIONS OF ILL HEALTH WHICH PREVENT ACTUAL RETURN ARE NO LONGER BELIEVED. ON CONTRARY, HE IS KNOWN TO BE INVOLVED IN ANTI-NIMEIRI ACTIVITIES.

2. FORMER POLITICIANS MET OFTEN IN KHARTOUM TO NEGOTIATE AMONG THEMSELVES AND WITH NIMEIRI'S REPRESENTATIVES WHAT THEIR FUTURE ROLE IN SUDAN MIGHT BE. RESTORATION OF PROPERTY, EMPLOYMENT, "HONOR AND MORALE" WERE AGREED UPON IN SERIES OF OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND SPECIAL HIGH LEVEL COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ABUL GASSIM TO MANAGE RECONCILIATION WHICH HOWEVER REMAINS PERSONAL PROJECT OF NOMEIRI FOR ALL IMPORTANT QUESTIONS. SADIQ AL-MAHDI, DISSATISFIED WITH STATUS IN SUDAN BUT EXPECTED TO REMAIN LOYAL, AND OTHERS HAVE GROUPED TOGETHER UNDER DE FACTO AEGIS OF ILLEGAL FORMER POLITICAL PARTIES. DESPITE WORK OF SOME SUB-COMMITTEES WHICH INTER ALIA RECOMMENDED RE-INSTATEMENT OF OUSTED DIPLOMATS AND RESTORATION OF SOME PROPERTY, MAIN COMMITTEE HAS MET INFREQUENTLY BECAUSE ABUL GASSIM, WHO DOES NOT HAVE FAITH IN RECONCILIATION, IS REPORTED TO BE DISINTERESTED AND PERHAPS UNHAPPY WITH RETURNEES. ONE OR TWO SENIOR OPPOSITION LEADERS WITH RELATIVELY CLEAN RECORDS HAVE BEEN GIVEN HIGH-LEVEL POSITIONS IN SUDAN SOCIALIST UNION, SOLE LEGAL POLITICAL PARTY.

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3. HUSSEIN AL-HINDI AND OTHER OPPOSITION OUTSIDE SUDAN, WITH FEW OTHERS WHO RENEGED ON AMNESTY AND LEFT AGAINN MET IN LONDON IN EARLY DECEMBER WITH SUDANESE COMMUNIST EXILES TO DISCUSS FORMATION OF PROGRESSIVE NATIONAL FRONT WITHOUT SADIQ AL-MAHDI AND THOSE WHO ACCEPTED RECONCILIATION. HINDI REPORTEDLY WAS BROUGHT TO LIBYA TO ATTEMPT TO ASSUME LEADERSHIP OF SUDANESE EXILES THERE WHO ARE MOSTLY ANSAR, PARAMILITARY SUPPORTERS OF MAHDIST SECT. FROM LIBYA HINDI WENT TO ETHIOPIA ON SIMILAR MISSION. THERE ARE ESTIMATED 1,000 ANSAR IN LIBYA AND PROBABLY TWICE AS MANY IN ETHIOPIA. HUSSEIN AL-HINDI'S RECIDIVISM APPARENTLY DATED FROM QADDAFI'S BITTER REACTION TO SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM, FOR NATIONAL FRONT REPRESENTATIVES ATTENDED REJECTIONIST CONFERENCE IN TRIPOLI DECEMBER 1-5, BUT CAUSE AND EFFECT RELATIONSHIP CANNOT BE DEMONSTRATED.

4. LONDON CONSULTATIONS WHICH INCLUDED COMMUNISTS ANGERED

HASSAN AL-TURABI, MOSLEM BROTHERHOOD LEADER BACK IN SUDAN,
AND ON DECEMBER 22 HE ANNOUNCED IN KHARTOUM MEDIA THAT
NATIONAL FRONT OPPOSITION GROUP WAS OFFICIALLY DISBANDED.
TURABI STATED THAT HE ACCEPTED RECONCILIATION AND AMNESTY.
SADIQ LEFT KHARTOUM ON DECEMBER 11 ON MISSION FROM
NIMEIRI TO PERSUADE HINDI TO ACCEPT RECONCILIATION AND HAS NOT
YET RETURNED. SADIQ AND HINDI ARGUED EMOTIONALLY IN LONDON
AND AFTERWARDS HAVE AVOIDED EACH OTHER IN SIMULTANEOUS TRIPS
TO LIBYA. SADIQ'S PURPORTED PURPOSE IN VISITING LIBYA WAS TO
PERSUADE ANSAR THERE TO FOLLOW HIS LEAD IN RETURNING PEACEFULLY
TO SUDAN. HIS HOPE OF BRINGING SOME ANSAR HOME BY JANUARY 1
DID NOT SUCCEED BUT HE REPORTED "SUCCESS" IN MID-JANUARY
TO FRIENDS IN KHARTOUM. NIMEIRI ON JANUARY 16 PRAISED SADIQ ON
TELEVISION AND SAID HIS TRIP ABROAD WAS APPROVED IN ADVANCE.

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CINCEUR FOR POLAD

5. AT BEGINNING OF NEW YEAR, FORMER OPPOSITION IS BADLY
SPLIT WITH IRRECONCILABLE ELEMENTS COALESCING OUTSIDE SUDAN
WHILE MAJORITY ACCEPT NATIONAL UNITY WITHIN COUNTRY. RELEASED
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POLITICAL PRISONERS HAVE BEEN OBTAINING EMPLOYMENT; AMNESTIED
POLITICIANS SEEM TO BE SATISFIED WITH PROGRESS TOWARDS RE-
HABILITATION, AND VARIOUS SPOKESMEN FOR OPPOSITION SUCH AS
SADIQ AND TURABI ARE ENGAGED IN DIALOGUES LEADING TO INTEGRATION
OF THEIR FOLLOWERS AND PERHAPS THEIR POLITICAL VIEWS INTO MAINSTREAM
OF SUDANESE PUBLIC LIFE. SUBVERSIVE ELEMENTS OUTSIDE SUDAN
AND SYMPATHIZERS INSIDE APPEAR TO BE DISORGANIZED AND GREATLY
WEAKENED BY EXTENT OF SUCCESS OF NIMEIRI'S RECONCILIATION STRATEGY.

6. SOUTHERN REGION DOMESTIC POLITICS REMAIN DISTINCT FROM
NATIONAL POLITICS. RECONCILIATION IN SOUTHERN REGION HAS BROUGHT
INTO LIMELIGHT POLITICIANS WHO RESISTED KHARTOUM GOVERNMENT
DURING CIVIL WAR WHICH ENDED WITH ADDIS ACCORD OF 1972.
SOME LINK DELAYED ACCEPTANCE OF RECONCILIATION WITH HOPES
FOR SOUTHERN LEADERSHIP CHANGES IN ELECTION SCHEDULED
FOR FEBRUARY 12. INCUMBENTS IN SOUTHERN REGIONAL GOVERNMENT
AND ASSEMBLY ARE VIEWED AS MOSTLY LOYALISTS WHO SIDED WITH
KHARTOUM DURING CIVIL WAR AND HAVE SINCE BEEN UNABLE TO OBTAIN
ADEQUATE DEVELOPMENT AID FOR SOUTH. APPRAISAL OF SOUTHERN
REGION AS "NEGLECTED COLONY" STRIKES RESPONSIVE CHORD IN
SOUTHERN MINDS. ABEL ALIER, VICE PRESIDENT OF SUDAN AND
PRESIDENT OF HIGH EXECUTIVE COUNCIL FOR SOUTHERN REGION,
AND SUPPORTERS HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY PREPARING TO RETAIN
CONTROL OF SOUTHERN REGION GOVERNMENT AFTER ELECTIONS.
IN ADDITION TO SLOW DEVELOPMENT OF SOUTHERN REGION WHICH
IN SOME CATEGORIES IS THOUGHT TO BE WORSE OFF THAN IN 1956,
INCUMBENTS ARE EMBARRASSED BY NIMEIRI'S ENTHUSIASM FOR INTEGRATION
WITH EGYPT AND BY FREQUENT OFFICIAL STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS IN
SUPPORT OF ISLAMIZATION OF SUDAN.

7. ECONOMY, STILL MAJOR DOMESTIC CONCERN, IS SORE POINT WITH
AVERAGE SUDANESE WHO IS BUFFETED BY INFLATION, SHORTAGES, POOR
PUBLIC SERVICES IN POWER, WATER AND TRANSPORTATION AND ALLEGATIONS
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OF CORRUPTION AND INCOMPETENCE IN GOVERNMENT. NIMEIRI CONTINUES TO ADDRESS PROBLEM WITH EXHORTATIONS BUT ALSO RECENTLY WITH CAUTIOUS STEPS TOWARD RESOLVING BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEM, INCLUDING EXPECTED BELT-TIGHTENING AGREEMENT WITH IMF. NIMEIRI'S APPARENT LACK OF CONCERN OVER REAL ECONOMIC DANGERS EVAPORATED BUT HE REMAINED RELUCTANT TO MAKE DRAMATIC OR SWEEPING CHANGES WHICH MIGHT RAISE DOUBT ABOUT HIS LEADERSHIP. PUBLIC WAS GLAD TO SEE PRICE CONTROL MEASURES ENACTED BUT RESULTS ARE MEAGER. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR CALLED JANUARY 18 FOR HEAVIER SENTENCES FOR VIOLATORS AS EVEN SPECIAL MARKETPLACE COURTS HAVE SYMPATHIZED WITH MERCHANTS CAUGHT IN MIDDLE.

8. SUDAN RELUCTANTLY RECOGNIZED NEED FOR LARGE AMOUNT OF BOP HELP FROM IMF AND ARAB COUNTRIES DURING PERIOD. EXPECTED AGREEMENT WITH IMF WILL REQUIRE SOME DISTASTEFUL MEDICINE THAT NIMEIRI HOPED TO AVOID WHEN HE TOOK OVER FINANCE PORTFOLIO IN SEPTEMBER. REFORM PROGRAM IS COUPLED WITH DOLS 100 MILLION CREDIT FACILITY. NIMEIRI SHOWED SOME PERSONAL HESITATION ABOUT SEEKING PAYMENTS ASSISTANCE FROM SAUDI ARABIA BUT IS NOW EXPECTED TO USE IMF SUPPORT TO SEEK ADDITIONAL HELP FROM SAUDI ARABIA AND KUWAIT.

9. MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT REMAINED KEY ELEMENT IN SUDANESE STABILITY. INFREQUENT REPORTS OF JUNIOR AND MIDDLE LEVEL OFFICER DISSATISFACTION ARE CONSISTENT WITH OBSERVATION THAT SUDAN ARMY CLOSELY REFLECTS CIVILIAN CONCERNS. NIMEIRI'S GOOD NEIGHBOR STRATEGY, AIMED AT REDUCING TENSION AND AVOIDING TROUBLE WITH LIBYA AND ETHIOPIA AS WELL AS POTENTIALLY THREATENING UGANDA, CAE AND CHAD, HAS BEEN WELCOMED BY MILITARY MEN WHO DISLIKED FREQUENT ALERTS, PERCEIVED NEGLECT OF THEIR OWN WELFARE, AND DETERIORATION OF READINESS AND STANDARDS IN MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT WHICH IS MAKING PAINFULLY SLOW TRANSITION FROM SOVIET SUPPORT TO WESTERN EQUIPMENT. MIDDLE LEVEL OFFICERS ARE CRITICAL OF LEADERSHIP BUT NIMEIRI IS REPORTEDLY AWARE OF PROBLEM AND PLANS SUITABLE CHANGES THROUGH RETIREMENT AND TRANSFERS. SINCE PAYMENT BY SAUDI ARABIA OF INITIAL C-130 COSTS AND DELIVERY OF MILITARY
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SURVEY REPORT BY U.S. TEAM, SENSE OF FORWARD MOVEMENT TOWARDS RESOLVING MILITARY PROBLEMS HAS BEEN CREATED. CHINESE DELIVERED WEAPONS FOR 10,000 SOLDIERS IN DECEMBER. JOINT MANEUVERS WITH BRITISH GRENADIER GUARDS INVOLVED MAJOR SUDANESE UNITS AT END OF YEAR IN MORALE-BOOSTING ACTIVITIES. NIMEIRI'S MILITARY POWER BASE SEEMED TO REMAIN INTACT AND LOYAL.

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II. FOREIGN AFFAIRS

10. SUDAN'S PURSUIT OF "INTEGRATION" WITH EGYPT, FRESHLY
LAUNCHED WITH JOINT ASSEMBLY MEETING IN CAIRO OCTOBER 24-31,
WAS OVERTAKEN BY SADAT'S TRIP TO JERUSALEM AND SUBSEQUENT
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ACTIVITIES. NIMEIRI PROMPTLY FLEW TO CAIRO FOR UNSCHEDULED VISIT
WITH SADAT AS DEMONSTRATION OF SUPPORT. NIMEIRI AND SADAT
DEVELOPED PLAN WHEREBY NIMEIRI ACTIVELY ASSISTS SADAT IN
RESTORING ARAB UNITY, NIMEIRI CLAIMED, AND ACCORDINGLY HE HAS
SENT PERSONAL MESSAGES TO SYRIA, LEBANON AND PLO LEADER

YASSER ARAFAT. NIMEIRI IMPLIED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS DIRECT CONTACTS WITH OTHER "ARAB KINGS AND HEADS OF STATE." SUDANESE SUPPORT FOR SADAT CULMINATED IN HEARTY OFFICIAL WELCOME DURING SADAT'S CEREMONIAL VISIT TO KHARTOUM JANUARY 7-8.

11. AFTER REJECTIONIST MEETING IN TRIPOLI DECEMBER 1-5 OPPOSED EGYPTIAN POLICIES, SUDAN CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR SADAT WHILE MAINTAINING PROPER CIVILITY TO LIBYA, LONG-TIME OPPONENT AND PATRON OF SUDANESE DISSIDENTS. APPROACH TOWARDS BETTER RELATIONS, BEGUN WITH FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING IN TUNIS NOVEMBER 12, CONTINUED TO RECEIVE OFFICIAL SUPPORT IN KHARTOUM EVEN AFTER NIMEIRI ADMITTED TO AMBASSADOR IN LATE NOVEMBER THAT LIBYANS WERE SUPPORTING SUDANESE OPPOSITION AGAIN. ON JANUARY 16 NIMEIRI TOLD TELEVISION AUDIENCE THAT RELATIONS WITH LIBYA WERE NOT DETERIORATING AND THAT "JOINT EFFORTS" WERE BEING MADE TO NORMALIZE THEM. DESPITE HIS PUTTING BEST FACE ON MATTER, IT IS CLEAR THAT SUDAN - LIBYAN RELATIONS ARE AT BEST ON BACK BURNER FOR MOMENT.

12. ETHIOPIA RELATIONS IMPROVED WITH HELP OAU MEDIATION COMMITTEE

MEETING IN FREETOWN DECEMBER 12-15. BASIC ISSUES SUCH AS SUDANESE SUPPORT FOR ERITREANS AND ETHIOPIAN HOSPITALITY TO SOME THOUSANDS ARMED SUDANESE DISSIDENTS REMAIN AS YET UNRESOLVED, BUT FIRST STEPS (INCLUDING RESTORATION OF ETHIOPIAN AIRLINES SERVICE TO KHARTOUM) HAVE BEEN TAKEN. IN OCTOBER SUDAN EXERTED EVERY EFFORT TO ACHIEVE UNITY OF VARIOUS ERITREAN FACTIONS IN ORDER TO FORM UNITED ERITREAN AGENCY WHICH COULD NEGOTIATE WITH ADDIS. ERITREANS FAILED TO ATTEND FOLLOW-UP MEETING IN LATE NOVEMBER. ETHIOPIA, UNHAPPY WITH SUDANESE CONDUIT

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FOR ERITREAN MILITARY SUPPLIES, HAS NOT YET ACCEPTED SUDANESE POSITION THAT POLITICAL SETTLEMENT OF ERITREAN QUESTION IS ESSENTIAL FOR IMPROVEMENT IN SUDAN-ETHIOPIA RELATIONS. OTHER MAJOR DEMAND FROM SUDAN, THAT ETHIOPIA SHED SOVIET DOMINATION, HAS ALSO FAILED SO FAR TO WIN ETHIOPIAN ACQUIESCENCE BUT DIALOGUE CONTINUES.

13. SUDAN WELCOMED SOMALIA'S BREAK WITH SOVIET SUPPORTERS IN MID-NOVEMBER, SIAD BARRE DISCUSSED PROVISION OF SUDANESE MILITARY FORCE TO SOMALIA WITH NIMEIRI BUT NIMEIRI ASSERTS IT IS NOT LIKELY TO HAPPEN UNLESS SOME ONE ELSE PAYS ALL COSTS, AND OAU, ARAB LEAGUE OR UNITED NATIONS SPONSORS INTERVENED. SUDAN CONTINUES TO HOPE USG WILL PROVIDE MILITARY SUPPORT TO SOMALIA TO REPLACE SOVIET ASSISTANCE. AS SUDAN-ETHIOPIA DIALOGUE CONTINUED, SOMALIA SHOWED SOME SIGNS OF DISENCHANTMENT WITH SUDANESE POLICIES.

15. ON OTHER FOREIGN POLICY ISSUES, SUDAN REMAINED MODERATE AND GENERALLY PRO-WESTERN, SUDANESE FOREIGN POLICY IS FUELED BY DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS, ESPECIALLY DEVELOPMENT NEEDS FROM SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAIT AND WEALTHY ARAB COUNTRIES. SUDANESE MILITARY FORCES, STRAPPED FOR FUNDS, REQUIRE PEACEFUL BORDERS WITH ALL

EIGHT ADJACENT NEIGHBORS, SOME OF WHOM ARE HOSTILE (LIBYA, ETHIOPIA) AND OTHERS UNSTABLE OR ERRATIC (UGANDA, CAE). SITUATIONS FAR FROM BORDERS OR NOT RELATED DIRECTLY TO ABOVE ISSUES ARE RARELY GIVEN HIGH PRIORITY.

III. U.S.-SUDAN RELATIONS

15. REPORT OF U.S. MILITARY SURVEY MISSION TO SUDAN IN AUGUST WAS SUBMITTED TO NIMEIRI IN EARLY DECEMBER WITH NOTICE THAT USG WOULD FAVORABLY RECEIVE REQUEST BASED ON SURVEY FOR PURCHASE OF SQUADRON OF F-5E'S AND ASSOCIATED RADAR IF DESIRED.

ALTERNATE WESTERN SOURCES OF EQUIPMENT IN LIEU OF SOVIET SUPPLY WERE SUGGESTED IN ORDER THAT U.S. COMMITMENTS BE LIMITED. IN JANUARY CHIEF OF SURVEY TEAM RETURNED TO SUDAN TO DISCUSS REPORT. SUDAN HOPES FOR RAPID START TOWARDS MODERNIZATION OF MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT, BEGINNING WITH F-5E'S AND RADAR AND DOLS 100 MILLION
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WORTH OF OTHER EQUIPMENT PROBABLY FROM EUROPEAN SOURCES, ALL TO BE FINANCED BY SAUDI ARABIA.

16. RELATIONS BETWEEN USG AND SUDANGOV CONTINUED CORDIAL AND COOPERATIVE. NIMEIRI RECEIVED BOTH CODELS WHICH ARRIVED DURING PERIOD AS WELL AS STAFDEL, MILITARY VISITORS, AND SENIOR USG OFFICIALS. GROWING UNDERSTANDING AND SUPPORT FOR SUDAN IN WASHINGTON WAS EVIDENCED BY INCREASING NUMBER OF VISITORS AND BY EXCEPTIONAL FRIENDLY MESSAGES FROM PRESIDENT CARTER TO NIMEIRI INCLUDING SPECIAL MESSAGE PRAISING NIMEIRI'S SUPPORT OF SADAT IN DECEMBER. BERGUS

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Litigation History:
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Message ID: b8cfa1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 10
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 KHARTOUM 3590
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3718076
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SITUATION IN SUDAN - OCT. - DEC. 1977 SECRET SECRET
TAGS: PGOV, PINT, PEPR, EFIN, SU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b8cfa1e0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014